MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 AUGUST 1984

Iran

Following the rejection by the Majlis of five Cabinet ministers, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi announced four of their replacements, including Colonel Mohammad Reza Rahimi as defense minister, Tehran radio reported. A new culture and higher education minister has yet to be named.

In a related development, the Majlis approved the appointments of three other newly introduced ministers, IRNA reported. The three ministers are those of information, justice, and housing and urban development.

Red Sea

British and French minesweepers arrived in Suez prior to beginning their hunt for mines on 17 August, MENA reported. The British, French, and U.S. minehunters will work in cooperation with Egyptian Naval Forces and the operation will be under the full control of the Egyptian military command, the agency said. Commenting on the search for mines in the Red Sea, IRNA stated that Iran demands the identification of the elements responsible for laying the mines, but added that it has grounds to question the competence and impartiality of those carrying out the search and would prefer the task to be carried out by Muslim and nonaligned states.

Israel

The consumer price index rose 12.4 percent in July, bringing the annual inflation rate to about 400 percent, according to a Central Bureau of Statistics report cited by Jerusalem radio. A trade union leader noted that this rise is the highest July price increase since the establishment of the state, and he warned that any intention by the government to change the labor or cost-of-living agreements will meet with strong opposition from the main trade union organization. Industrialists stated that the July index emphasized the need for the two major parties to reach an agreement on economic matters.

Meanwhile, the Likud and Alignment joint political committee met, and the next session will be on 19 August, Jerusalem radio reported. Disagreements have arisen on two particular issues, the settlements and the peace initiative with Jordan, the radio added.

Maghreb

Morocco and Libya have invited other Maghreb countries to join in the treaty of union signed recently by Colonel Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi and King Hassan II, a Moroccan official disclosed in remarks reported by MAP.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Court Sentences Rebels to Death, Imprisonment

LD112052 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Text] In its open session today, the DRA Special Revolutionary Court sentenced (Qodus-e Kal) and 14 members of his criminal band to death. Considering their condition and the severity of their crimes, the court also sentenced 21 other people accused of belonging to this band to imprisonment ranging from 5 to 20 years.

As our compatriots know, during its eight open judicial sessions several days ago, which were attended by 4,000 compatriots and citizens of Kabul, the DRA Special Revolutionary Court considered the case of Abdol (Qodus), nicknamed (Qodus-e Kal), son of (Rahmatullah) and an inhabitant of (Dewalimaydan) in Balkh Province, and the rest of the accused belonging to his criminal band, in a completely democratic atmosphere and carefully observed the principle of legality and revolutionary justice. The accused had been provided with the right of defense. The last session of the court was held today to consider the case of these criminals.

(Qodus-e Kal), who lived in Iran for 5 years, on the instruction of Iranian reactionary circles and in collusion with the (Jami et-e Islami) band went to Balkh Province in March 1981 and remained for a while in the service of this band. He then joined the (Harakat-e Islami) band, and later the (Harakat-e Enqlab-e Islami). He is the leader of those criminals whose members, on his instruction or direct participation, committed more than 20 antihumanity and antirevolutionary crimes.

(Qodus-e Kal) and his band had no other work except destruction, terrorism, robbery, plundering public and private property, attacking caravans carrying public and private property, armed resistance against the country's security forces, murder, and savage killings. This is an example of those claiming Islam and Islamism whom the U.S. criminal imperialism and its collaborators support.

Quoting a spokesman of the Special Revolutionary Court, the correspondent of BIA reports that a number of ulema and clergy of Balkh Province regard (Qodus-e Kal) and the members of his band as corrupt on earth and issued judgment on the permissibility of shedding their blood.

Furthermore, in their letters written collectively and privately, the people of Balkh Province regard persons such as (Qodus-e Kal) and his band as the most dangerous enemies to the prosperity, peace, and security of the people of Afghanistan and have asked for severe punishment.

The correspondent of BIA adds that at today's session hundreds of people and witnesses again attended and heard the ruling of the court against these criminals.

In the content of the court's decision, issued in the name of the DRA in accordance with the provisions of law, the crimes of (Qodus-e Kal) and the members of his band were listed on the basis of confession, evidence, witnesses, depositions, and documents of the jury. (Qodus-e Kal) and 14 members of his band were convicted to death in accordance with the provisions of law. In consideration of their conditions and the severity of their committed crimes, 21 other members of this band were sentenced to imprisonment from 5-20 years.

The decision of the DRA Special Revolutionary Court against these convicts is final in accordance with Article 11 of the Special Revolutionary Court law. The death sentence of the convicts, in consideration of Article 58 of the DRA Basic Principles, will be implemented after approval by the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium.

Successful Operations Reported Against Rebels

LD121802 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 12 Aug 84

[Text] In accordance with guidance provided by the 13th PDPA Central Committee Plenum, successful security operations were carried out by our vigilant security forces in various parts of the country in order to completely eliminate the murderous rebel bands. As a result, our noble compatriots have been saved from crimes by the rebels.

Quoting a source from the Paktia security forces, a BAKHTAR correspondent reports that a number of armed rebels were recently crushed as a result of successful operations by the security forces in that province. The security forces seized a quantity of weapons and assorted ammunition and destroyed 12 DSHK's, 2 recoilless guns, 7 mortars, 4 rocket launchers, and several ammunition stores.

In the course of operations in Parwan Province, a number of armed rebels were also crushed and the security forces destroyed 12 weapons and 1 DSHK.

Likewise, a number of rebels were crushed during operations in Baghlan Province. Nine others were captured along with 1 mortar, 6 assorted weapons, and 12 antitank mines. The security forces destroyed eight ammunition stores.

According to another report, a number of armed rebels who were disrupting the peaceful lives of noble compatriots were crushed as a result of successful operations by the heroic security forces in Faryab, Nangarhar, Jowzjan, Ghowr Province, Oarah Bagh District, Kabul Province, Kandahar, Herat, and Kapisa. The security forces also seized 48 assorted weapons and a quantity of ammunition and destroyed a quantity of weapons, ammunition, and several ammunition stores belonging to these criminals.

According to another report, those of our deceived compatriots who had links with the criminal rebel bands as a result of false and hostile propaganda now understand the truth of the revolution. Repenting their past actions and taking advantage of the amnesty decree by the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium and the message of the national session of the social personalities of the tribes and nationalities of the country, these compatriots are surrendering to the country's security forces in groups. Realizing the lofty and human objectives of the PDPA, the April Revolution, and its new development stage, a group of 485 men belonging to the so-called criminal (Jami'at-e Islami) recently

surrendered to security authorities in Balkh Province. They also surrendered 1 DSHK and 453 weapons.

Similarly, 140 deceived persons, led by Dost Khan, along with 120 assorted weapons and 3 rocket launchers, surrendered to security authorities in Nangarhar Province. They have pledged to fight to the last breath in defense of the country and for the elimination of the rebel bands. They will now strive for the construction of our beloved country, the revolutionary Afghanistan.

THE MUSLIM Reports Move Toward Exile Government

GF151950 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 2 Aug 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Quetta, Aug 1 — A proposed Grand Assembly (Loi Jirga) of rebel Afghan groups will be held next month at Madina Munawara (Saudi Arabia) under the chairmanship of ex-King Zahir Shah of Afghanistan, who is living in exile in Rome these days, reliable rebel Afghan sources said here on Thursday.

The proposed Grand Assembly of Afghan rebels would also announce setting up of a government-in-exile under the leadership of ex-King Zahir Shah on the eve of the Haj pilgrimage at Madina Munawara. It is also learnt that invitations have already been extended to the nationalist Afghan groups which comprise Harkat-e-Inqilab-e-Islami, Nijat-e Milli, Muhaz-e-Milli, Harkat-e-Islami and Afghan United Front.

These sources said that invitations have also gone out to the fundamentalist Afghan groups, which include Hez be-Eslami led by Golbeddin Hekmatyar and Yunes Khales, and Jamiat-e-Islami led by Abdul Rasul Siaf.

However, sources of these groups denied having received any such invitation. Besides, they categorically denounced such an assembly and termed it as a move for the revival of ex-King Zahir Shah. They argue that whatever they were facing in Afghanistan was due to ex-King Zahir Shah whose policies had led to instability in Afghanistan.

On the other hand the nationalist Afghan sources, who are usually termed as pro-King (Shah Parast) by the other groups, contended that ex-King Zahir Shah was capable of uniting the freedom fighters in Afghanistan. They were also optimistic about the proposed Grand Assembly at Madina Munawara as ground for the said assembly had been paved at Cairo and Rome some three months ago, where preliminary meetings of these groups and their leaders were held.

The moving spirit behind these meetings was Syed Ahmed Gilani, leader of Muhaz-e-Milli, who is a staunch supporter of ex-King Shah.

JASARAT Reports Relocation of Afghan Refugees

GF121616 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 9 Aug 84 pp 1, 8

[Excerpts] Peshawar, 8 Aug (PPI) — The government of the North West Frontier Province [NWFP] of Pakistan has directed Afghan resistance leaders to remove their centers from Peshawar to places outside the city which have been marked for them by the commission for Afghan refugees.

All Afghan refugee leaders who have been contacted and agreed to the new arrangements are expected to move out of the city by 31 August. Anyone failing to comply with the directive will have their offices closed.

The Afghan resistance movement which consists of seven groups has been allotted a safe building along the Grand Trunk Road where they may set up their headquarters. Under the government directive, the Afghan refugees are required to wind up their offices which are scattered all over Peshawar.

The Mojaddedi group, which is made up of three groups, has already agreed to move their center to Peshawar Charsadda Road where a plot of land has been allotted to it. The Islamic Ettehad group, headed by Golbaddin Hikmatyar, has rented a 450 kanal [5,200 square feet per kanal] plot near Pabbi outside Peshawar.

Another resistance leader, Abdur Rauf Siaf has already chosen a plot of land near Pabbi for housing his followers and has built a complete mud-house village for them. Maulawi Mohammad Yunus Khales has chosen a place along the Peshwar Jamrud Road where he plans to build a village. He also plans to rent some existing housing there. Jami'at-e Eslami leader Professor Burhanuddin Rabbani has acquired a large plot of land near (Nasir Bagh) and plans to settle there with his followers.

Meanwhile, all bachelor Afghan refugees are to be removed from the city and set up in tent villages near Peshawar. The campaign to move the refugees is going on without let up. So far 700 bachelors have been moved out of the city while others are being listed. According to one estimate, there are 10,000 adult Afghan bachelor refugees residing with the city at present. The removal of all bachelors will take about 1 month. The resistance leaders are expected to help in this campaign. Their removal will help to ease the acute housing shortage within the city.

State Minister Comments on Sri Lanka Events

BK161154 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] The government has been doing everything possible so that indiscriminate killings and large-scale operations directed against the Tamil population of Sri Lanka are stopped. Making a statement in the Lok Sabha today, the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Ram Niwas Mirdha, said the situation in Sri Lanka has taken a grave turn in the course of last week. Reports indicate that armed forces there are conducting large-scale operations in Jaffna, Valvettiturai, Chunnakam, Mannar and other parts of the northern province where the Tamils constitute the overwhelming majority of the population. There has been great loss of lives and property of the Tamils.

Mr Mirdha told the house that to our profound regret and unease we find that the Sri Lanka Government has thought it fit to induct outside security agencies into domestic political situation. This can only aggravate matters not only in Sri Lanka but also in the region. Our strong feelings on the development have been conveyed to President Jayewardene.

The house was told that President Jayewardene sent a message to the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi. In the message he said he thought that Tamil extremists have decided to come out in the open and challenge the security forces. Mrs Gandhi's reply pointed out that the number of Tamil militants being small it was difficult to see what they would gain by challenging the armed forces. The prime minister had emphasised that the security forces should not overreact and further alienate the Tamil population as a whole. Unfortunately, that is precisely what seems to be happening. Mr Mirdha said it is tragic that a new cycle of violence had erupted and generated a kind of tension, confrontation and conflict. The Tamils are gripped by fear and understandable resentment. India has taken a serious note of the situation.

The speaker, Mr Balram Jakhar, said that the entire house is aggrieved over the tragic happenings in Sri Lanka. He assured the members that they can have a discussion on the subject whenever they want.

In Sri Lanka, the minister of national security, Mr Athulathmudali, is to fly to the town of Mannar to investigate the allegations of the army rampage there. The cabinet has told the minister to go to the city immediately where more than 100 shops of Tamils were burnt by the troops. Mr Athulathmudali will be accompanied on his trip to Manner by the transport minister, Mr M.H. Mohamed, who visited the town on Monday and submitted the report of his findings to the cabinet. Earlier Mr Athulathmudali has said that any army personnel found to be involved in Sunday's incident would face the court martial. The situation in Manner remains tense and many people are still hiding, being afraid of another army attack.

Police Disperse Demonstrators in Srinagar

BK151236 Hong Kong AFP in English 0923 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Aug 15 (AFP) — Police in the Kashmir city of Srinagar today fired into the air, used tear gas and repeated baton charges to disperse pro-Pakistani demonstrators, press reports reaching here said.

The PRESS TRUST of INDIA (PTI) news agency said the trouble began this morning when police, acting on a tip-off, prevented a large number of people carrying Pakistani flags and chanting anti-Indian slogans from converging on Srinagar's sports stadium where an independence parade was being held.

Last year, a dozen people were injured when a bomb was thrown, reportedly by pro-Pakistan elements, at an independence day parade in Kashmir, the strategic northwestern state bordering Pakistan.

Finding their way barred this morning, the demonstrators hurled stones at police before retreating while engaging in looting as police swung into action, PTI said.

Earlier, supporters of Kashmir's ousted chief minister, Farooq Abdullah, crisscrossed the city, asking shopkeepers to close their establishments in protest at what they described as the "unconstitutional dismissal" of the Abdullah government.

More on Srinagar Violence

BK151607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, the chief minister, Mr Ghulam Mohammad Shah, unfurled the national flag and took the salute at a parade in Srinagar [on occasion of independence day]. Mr Shah asserted that his government will deal firmly with the elements trying to disturb peace in the state.

Some groups of miscreants tried to disturb peace in the city by forcing shopkeepers to pull down their shutters. Some of them also pelted stones on people who were returning after attending the independence day celebration.

The state education minister, Mr Ali Mohammad Naik, told newsmen that the police had to resort to baton charges and burst tear gas shells to disperse violent mobs. They also fired in the air at four places. Mr Naik said that about 100 policemen were injured and a number of vehicles damaged.

In reply to a question, Mr Naik alleged that the violence was incited by workers of the National Conference headed by Dr Farooq Abdullah and the Awami Action Committee of Maulvi Farooq. He said the situation is now under control.

The chief minister later told our Srinagar correspondent that today's incidents in the city were preplanned. According to an official spokesman, one person was killed and over 100 policemen and 7 civilians were injured in the police firing at Srinagar.

5,000 Tamil Protesters Arrested in Tamil Nadu

BK160404 Hong Kong AFP in English 0352 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 16 (AFP) — Police arrested about 5,000 Indian Tamils in the southern state of Tamil Nadu after they

tried to hoist black flags in protest at the killings of Tamils in Sri Lanka, local news agencies reported today.

Some 90 people, most of them ethnic Tamils, have been killed over the past 12 days in clashes between security forces and Tamil separatists in Sri Lanka's north.

Tamil Nadu is the traditional home of the Tamils. Some militant Tamils in neighboring Sri Lanka are campaigning for the creation of a separate Tamil state in the north of the Indian Ocean island nation.

The UNITED NEWS OF INDIA [UNI] and PRESS TRUST OF INDIA [PTI] news agencies said in dispatches from Madras, Tamil Nadu's state capital, that the majority of India's 50 million Tamils observed a "mourning day" in Tamil Nadu yesterday in protest at the killings in Sri Lanka.

Most of those arrested in Tamil Nadu yesterday — Indian Independence Day — are members of the orthodox Tamil party, Dravida Kazhagam, UNI said.

Speaking at a flag-hoisting ceremony yesterday, Tamil Nadu authorities chief issued a veiled threat that his government might intervene to "liberate" the Tamils in Sri Lanka, PTI reported.

Reportage on New Andhra Pradesh Government

Governor Invites New Government

BK160946 Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi 0840 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] The Andhra Pradesh governor, Mr Ram Lal, has asked the chief minister, Mr N. T. Rama Rao, to resign and has invited the rival Telugu Desam group leader, Mr Bhaskara Rao, to form the government.

The governor's communication was handed over to Mr N. T. Rama Rao while he was in the midst of a meeting of Legislative Assembly members of his group and of the opposition parties supporting him.

The governor in his communication said he is satisfied that Mr. N. T. Rama Rao has lost his majority in the Legislative Assembly.

Earlier this morning, Mr Bhaskara Rao met the governor with his supporters to stake his claim to form a government. He was accompanied by former Ministers Mr Ramamuni Reddy, Mr Jeevan Reddy, Mr S. Satyanarayana, and the former [word indistinct], Mr M. Krishna Rao. The governor did not meet with his supporters.

Later, the leader of the opposition in the Legislative Council, Mr K. Rosaiah, also had a meeting with the governor after the executive of the Congress-I legislative party met in Hyderabad. The executive meeting decided to support Mr Bhaskara Rao. Earlier, non-Congress-I opposition leaders met at Mr N. T. Rama Rao's residence to discuss political developments following the split in the Telugu Desam Party.

Rama Rao Dismissed

BK161015 Hong Kong AFP in English 1008 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 16 (AFP) — Andhra Pradesh governor, Ram Lal, today dismissed Chief Minister Nandamuri Rama Rao and appointed former state finance minister Bhaskara Rao to succeed him.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA said Mr. Rama Rao, head of the state's Telugu Desam Party, had been arrested. The agency gave no reason for the arrest.

Yesterday Mr. Bhaskara Rao and 91 defectors from Telugu Desam said they had the backing of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's 56 Congress Party state assembly members and could form a new administration.

Bhaskara Rao Sworn In

BK161258 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Mr Bhaskara Rao has been sworn in as the new chief minister of Andhra Pradesh. The governor, Mr Ram Lal, administered the oath of office and secrecy to Mr Bhaskara Rao, the former finance minister, at Raj Bhavan [Governor's House] in Hyderabad this afternoon.

Earlier, a communique from the Raj Bhavan announced the dismissal of the N.T. Rama Rao ministry. In the morning, the governor in a communication asked Mr Rama Rao to resign saying he is convinced that he has lost his majority in the assembly.

The communication was received by Mr Rama Rao while he was having a meeting with the members of the legislative assembly of his group and the opposition parties supporting him. Before this, the rival group leader, Mr Bhaskara Rao, met the governor with his supporters and staked his claim to form a government.

The Congress-I legislative party, which also met in Hyderabad this morning, announced its support for Mr Bhaskara Rao. Later the Congress-I opposition leader in the legislative council, Mr K. Rosaiah, met the governor to convey the decision.

In his reply to the governor's communication, Mr Rama Rao took exception for not being invited to demonstrate his strength on the floor of the house. Addressing party legislators, Mr Rama Rao said he would not tender his resignation. Later, accompanied by his supporters, Mr N. T. Rama Rao proceeded to Raj Bhavan. A tense situation was prevailing around Raj Bhavan as supporters of both Mr N. T. Rama Rao and Mr N. Bhaskara Rao gathered there and were shouting slogans. Mr Rama Rao, protesting against being asked to resign by the governor, courted arrest. Five opposition leaders were also taken into custody.

A message just received says that the new Andhra Pradesh chief minister, Mr Bhaskara Rao, has been asked to prove his majority on the floor of the assembly within a month. Mr Rama Rao and his followers have been released.

Commerce Minister Vishwanath Singh Resigns

BK151251 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Following his appointment as the Uttar Pradesh Congress-I Committee chief, the commerce minister, Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, has resigned from the Union Council of Ministers. His resignation has been accepted by the president.

He, however, has been advised to discharge his duty as commerce and industry minister till the end of the current session of parliament.

Lok Dal, Janata, Congress (S) Parties Coalesce

BK101314 Hong Kong AFP in English 1209 GMT 10 Aug 84

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 10 (AFP) — Three main right-wing Indian opposition parties today decided to coalesce in a new group to contest the coming general elections, a spokesman for the group said.

The group, which will be led by former Prime Minister Charan Singh, the chief of the Lok Dal or Peoples Party, is to have a common symbol as well as a common mainfesto and to conduct a joint campaign, Spokesman Shard Pawar added.

"This is a first step towards forming a national alternative to (Prime Minister) Indira Gandhi's Congress (I) Party," he said.

The three main parties are, the Janata Party, the Lok Dal and the Congress (S), a breakaway faction of Mrs Gandhi's Congress (I) Party.

After two days of talks, the group decided that unless they fought the elections together, there was little hope of defeating Mrs Gandhi.

The general elections should be held before next January, but [words indistinct].

"We are hopeful that other parties, specially the Bharatiya Janata Party (another right-wing Hindu dominated group) will join us...we are going to make efforts for some sort of adjustment with them if they refuse to come under one platform," said Mr Pawar, a former chief minister of Maharashtra State.

There are 19 opposition parties and groups in India.

Mr Pawar yesterday said that the three parties might contact former Prime Minister Morarji Desai to join them. Mr Desai assumed the premiership after the defeat of the Congress (I) in the 1977 elections. He quit politics after Mrs Gandhi's return to power in 1980.

Mr Pawar said that talks would continue, with the next round scheduled for next Thursday and Friday.

Meanwhile, the Congress (I) is also gearing up for the elections. The newly appointed chief minister of Uttar Pradesh, N.D. Tiwari, today inducted 44 new ministers in his cabinet.

The move was seen by many as part of the Congress (I) preparation to effectively fight the polls in the state, which has the largest number of seats — 85 — in the 554-member lower house of the parliament.

Delhi Reports Sikh Convention Activities

BK111216 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Excerpt] In Amritsar, the Sarbat Khalsa [Sikh] convention called by the Nihang [Sikh guard] chief, Baba Santa Singh, has unanimously recommended changes in the Sikh Gurdwara [Temple] Act pertaining to the administration of the Sikh shrines.

A resolution passed by the convention today says it is necessary to ensure that the Sikh head priest truly command the high esteem according to the Sikh tradition and not be reduced to status of employees of the management. They declared that it should never again allow the holy places to be turned into hotbeds of politics.

The convention also expressed concern over the antinational slogans of separatism being raised from foreign countries. It made clear that the demand for separation was against the Sikh religion. It advised the Sikhs to guard themselves against such slogans.

The convention today excommunicated the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] Committee president, Mr Gurcharan Singh Tohra, from the Khalsa panth [religion] for his anti-Panthic role.

More on Sikh Convention

BK111617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Aug 84

[Excerpts] In Amritsar, the Sarbat Khalsa [Sikh] convention called by the Nihang [Sikh guard] chief, Baba Santa Singh, has unanimously recommended that changes be brought about in the Sikh Gurdwara [Temple] Act relating to the administration of the Sikh shrines.

The convention approved the Kar Sewa [voluntary community service] at the Akal Takht [highest seat of Sikh religion] undertaken by Baba Santa Singh. Speaking at the convention, Baba Santa Singh said the convention was called to remove certain misgivings and fears among the Sikhs. He said he has undertaken the Kar Sewa to restore the Akal Takht to its old glory.

He also appealed to the people to forget the events of the past few years and not to do anything that might aggravate the tension in the state. Making a strong plea for communal harmony, Baba Santa Singh said that the four gates of the Harimandir Saheb [main temple in Golden Temple] symbolizes the fact that the sacred temple is open to people belonging to all religions. About a lakh of people attended the convention when it started this morning. But later their number rose to over 3 lakhs.

Newsmen Visit Site of 13 Aug Afghan Air Raid

BK160015 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Excerpt] A group of newsmen, including some foreign journalists, today visited the scene of bombing by Afghan aircraft in Khurram Agency near Parachinar on Monday. The newsmen saw for themselves the damage caused by the bombing in (Gambina) village about 12 miles inside Pakistan territory. The buildings damaged included a mosque and an imambara [worship place] besides a large number of houses which were completely destroyed. Some houses sustained partial damage. One of the bombs fell just around the primary school, where over 60 students were present at that time.

Radio Pakistan's representative, who also accompanied the team of newsmen, says that 100 to 1,000-pound bombs created huge craters. One of them was so big that water [word indistinct] up.

PAKISTAN TIMES on Foreign Minister's Visit

GF161000 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English 30 Jul 84 P 4

[Editorial: "Yaqub's China Visit"]

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan's five-day visit to Beijing has given continuity to the ministerial contacts maintained by Pakistan and the People's Republic of China on the basis of annual consultations. The Pakistani foreign minister had visited Beijing in May last year which visit was returned by Mr Wu Xueqian, the new Chinese foreign minister, in the following July. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan's working sessions with his counterpart in Beijing have been most useful as were his meetings with President Li Xiannian and Premier Zhao Ziyang.

The topics which figured in these meetings related to the global political situation, international issues of common interest and the whole gamut of bilateral contacts in the realm of political and economic relations. The working sessions with Mr Wu Xueqian extended over five hours during which bilateral trade and projects undertaken under the auspices of the Pakistan-China Joint Commission were thrashed out.

The topic foremost on the agenda was the continuing crisis in Afghanistan over which Pakistan and China have had an identity of views on the basis of the UN resolutions putting forward a four-point political solution. China being a neighbour of both Afghanistan and Soviet Union has, since 1979, maintained a consistent stand on the Soviet intervention and made Soviet withdrawal one of the conditions in its negotiations for a Sino-Soviet normalisation of relations.

The discussions in Beijing have taken account of the stiffening of the Soviet attitude over Afghanistan after the change of leadership in the Kremlin and the tenor of indirect contacts under the aegis of the UN secretary-general which China supports.

Another issue, on which China supports the Pakistani stand, is the Iran-Iraq war which was discussed in the light of the new initiative taken by the OIC peace committee, of which President Ziaul Haq is a member, to end the unfortunate war and avoid its stark negative implications for the security of the countries situated in the region of the Gulf. Both Pakistan and China have keenly pursued the policy of normalisation with their common neighbour India.

Both have a background of war with it to overcome, disarm suspicions and prejudices, in order to achieve a useful regional ambiance of peace and cooperation. China has consistently supported Pakistan's policy of normalisation with India and is keenly following the current initiatives being taken bilaterally and inside SARC [South Asia Regional Cooperation] in this direction. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan took the opportunity while he was in Beijing to once again debunk the allegations being levelled in the West against the two countries about cooperation in the manufacture of a nuclear device.

The malicious speculations emanating in the Western media are based on a facile deduction: Since China has collaborated in a project of heavy engineering, manufacturing cement and sugar plants indigenously, it must also be assisting in making the mythical atomic bomb. What, however, engaged the attention of the two foreign ministers in Beijing more seriously are the bilateral economic contacts which seriously need to be expanded. The volume of trade has reached half-a-billion dollars. Pakistan imports heavy and light machinery, light engineering goods, industrial raw materials and food items from China. Its exports to China are mainly cotton, textiles and leather goods but this trade has declined since the high-water mark of 1980-81.

Serious efforts have to be made to remove this imbalance. A number of tradesmen's delegations have gone to China and efforts are being made in the Pak-China Joint Commission to open new channels in this direction. This aspect of the Sino-Pakistan relationship needs to be expanded because there is a lot of scope in it for the mutual benefit of both the countries.

Government To Increase Exports To Offset Problems

BK110546 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The government has taken a number of steps to offset the adverse effects on the national economy caused by the decline in overseas remittances and the return of Pakistanis from abroad. The federal minister for planning and development, Dr Mahbubul Haq, told a news conference in Islamabad today that in order to over-come this problem, the export target for this year has been revised from the existing 15 percent to 21 percent. For the next year, the increase in exports is targeted at 28 percent. To overcome the unemployment problem, encouragement is being given to establishing small industrial units. According to an official survey, 80,000 small industrial units in urban areas and 30,000 in rural areas have already been established to provide jobs to a large number of the labor force. This is to create 15 percent more jobs than the target fixed for the current plan period.

Explaining the situation, Dr Mahbubul Haq said overseas remittances in recent years have contributed about 53 percent of the country's total foreign exchange earnings and this has helped in

absorbing about 10 percent of the labor force. In the last decade, from 1971-72 to 1982-83, a total of about 2 million Pakistanis went abroad, especially to the Middle East, to jobs. During this decade, the total remittances to Pakistan amounted to about $13 billion.

Reportage on Pashtun Leaders' Activities

Hold Meetings in Kabul

GF160542 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6 Aug 84 P 8

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 5: Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan and Begum Nasim Wali Khan, now in Kabul, are maintaining close contact with the Indian Ambassador in the Afghan capital.

It is reliably learnt that Begum Wali Khan visited the Indian Embassy at Kabul on 28th of last month and had lunch with the Indian ambassador. Her visit to the Indian Embassy was provided security umbrella by the Karmal regime authorities. Sardar Khair Bukhsh Marri, it is learnt, has also been having frequent meetings with Abdul Ghaffar Khan and Begum Nasim Wali Khan in Kabul.

Abdul Ghaffar Khan and Begum Nasim Wali Khan are also in close touch with the Karmal regime's highest functionaries in Kabul. Soon after their arrival in Kabul on the 19th of last month the Karmal regime Prime Minister Sultan Ali Kishtmand, called on Abdul Ghaffar Khan and Begum Nasim Wali Khan and stayed with them for about three hours.

Khan Leaves for CSSR

GF160540 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] Quetta, Aug. 5: Khan Ghaffar Khan, the Red Shirt leader, today left Kabul for Czechoslovakia for the treatment of his knee ailment, Radio Kabul reported tonight.

Khan Ghaffar was seen off at Kabul Airport by Najeebullah; member, Politburo; Niaz Mohd Mehmand, member, Central Committee of the ruling party; Begum Nasim Wali Khan, Ajmal Khattak, and senior Afghan officials. The ambassador of Czechoslovakia at Kabul was also present at the airport, the radio added.

More on CSSR Trip

GF160546 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 9 Aug 84 p 8

[Bureau report]

[Text] Peshawar, Aug. 8: Begum Nasim Wali Khan, who had accompanied her father-in-law Abdul Ghaffar Khan to Kabul, returned to Peshawar today.

On the other side of the border at Torkham she was seen off by governor and commander of Jalalabad and Afghan deputy minister of the border areas while Abdul Khaliq Khan, Arbab Mohammad Hamayun, Bashir Ahmad Bilour and several others received her on this side of the barrier.

Badshah Khan [Abdul Ghaffar Khan], it may be added, has left for Czechoslovakia. He was accompanied by his doctor in Kabul. His preliminary check-up would be conducted in Czechoslovakia for about one week. Later he would be kept in a sanatorium for two weeks and another week-long check-up would follow. The 95 year old Khudai Khidmatgar [God's servant political party] is expected back here in the second week of September.

After a brief stay in Peshawar Begum Wali Khan left for Wali Bagh.

Press Note Issued on Karachi Student Clashes

BK160608 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] According to a press note issued in Karachi, a clash took place between two opposing factions of students at the new hostel of [name indistinct] Medical College last Tuesday [14 August], in which one faction used firearms resulting in injuries to seven persons. One of them later succumbed to his injuries. He had gone to the hostel to visit someone. The press note adds that the police have arrested many persons.

THE MUSLIM Reports Seizure of Smuggled Heroin

GF160534 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 30 Jul 84 p 1

[By staff reporter]

[Text] Islamabad, July 29: In one of the biggest hauls of narcotics, the customs anti-smuggling squad today impounded 85 kgs of heroin powder from a truck near Hasan Abdal today.

The heroin was smuggled from Afghanistan and was to be handed over to a party in Karachi according to the raiding party.

Two occupants identified as Fateh Khan and Dais Khan were taken into custody.

The squad was tipped off that an attempt to smuggle heroin down country would be made. It kept the G.T. Road near Hasan Abdal, 40 km from here, under strict surveillance. On spotting the suspected vehicle, it was made to stop. A search led to the discovery of the heroin which had been concealed in the roof of the truck, the raiding party said.

Instances of Misuse of Refugee Aid Cited

GF160530 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 1 Aug 84 p 8

[By staff reporter]

[Text] Quetta, July 31: An anti-corruption staff yesterday foiled an attempt at the sale of a large quantity of dry skimmed milk meant for Afghan refugees in the open market. The milk was brought in two passenger buses.

S.P. Sardar Dur-e-Yaman made a surprise raid on the buses which were being unloaded at the new bus stand near satellite town in a secret godown.

The anti-corruption staff also nabbed five persons, who later revealed that the milk was sold to them by the village administrator at Surkhab refugee camp, 40 miles northeast of Quetta. The confiscated milk was filled in 108 large bags costing thousand of rupees.

In another case at Punjpai refugee camp, 45 miles north of Quetta, the anti-corruption staff has started interrogation of four officials of Afghan Refugee Organisation allegedly involved in the embezzlement of 211 bags of sugar, 108 bags of skimmed milk and 18 bales of tarpaulin.

THE MUSLIM Comments on Strained Indian Relations

GF160532 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 30 Jul 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Pakistan, India Ties: What Has Gone Wrong?"]

[Text] Though Ambassador Humayun Khan has kept his cool, the efforts to improve Pakistan-India ties once again seem to be in the doldrums. The abrupt postponement by the Indian Government of the foreign ministers talks scheduled for August 6 did not deter the Pakistani ambassador from expressing the hope that a "temporary delay or disruption should not be a cause for despair." We admire his optimism and share his enthusiasm for continuing the talks between Pakistan and India. He wants both the countries to have the courage and the vision to cast aside the shackles of the past and to conquer the forces of suspicion and mistrust.

When the Indian information minister visited Pakistan recently he was accorded a reception that went beyond the call of normal diplomatic courtesy. He himself was all charm and goodwill and one would have thought that the ball had been set rolling. Foreign Minister Yaqub Ali's ride to Maldives in an Indian Air Force plane in company with his Indian counterpart gave further confirmation of the softening of attitudes. But once again something seems to have gone wrong.

Mrs. Indira Gandhi's cabinet reshuffle, though interpreted by some observers as a measure dictated by purely domestic considerations, has given rise to new misgivings. Narasimha Rao's exit from the foreign office only six months prior to the general elections does not seem to have been prompted by the desire to strengthen the home ministry. Even if he is the most competent of Mrs. Gandhi's cabinet colleagues, he can hardly undo in six months what she has done in Punjab and Kashmir unless she was either planning to postpone the polls or rig the process. Her churlish response to President Ziaul Haq's letter expressing concern over the plight of the Indian Muslims is indicative of her style of running the foreign office. But her self-righteous sermonising on non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries is certainly not in conformity with her responses to the MRD [Movement for Restoration of Democracy] agitation in Pakistan, or the Tamil-Sinhalese conflict in Sri Lanka.

Mrs. Gandhi's tough posture could be pre-polls rhetoric and she probably hopes to carry the Hindi belt by arousing the communal sentiment. If it could be established that the Sikhs and the Kashmiri Muslims were in league with Pakistan, Mrs. Gandhi may think she does not need any other plank. Many observers believe that the "threat from Pakistan" is no longer a credible vote-catching device, but even if it was, whatever mileage Mrs. Gandhi gets by this gimmick would be insignificant compared to the damage done to the long-term interests of India and the region. Nothing would be more myopic than to destroy the spirit of goodwill between the two countries for the sake of gaining a few seats in the Lok Sabha.

Continuing the process of improving Pakistan-India ties is a goal dear to the heart of all sane and peace-loving people. Neither India nor Pakistan will gain anything by perpetuating tension and harbouring ill will against each other. Even China, whom the India still regards as Pakistan's guardian angel, has expressed the desire that the two countries should improve their relations. Mrs. Gandhi is no novice in politics; she has played long innings and time for her to call it a day may not be far off. One would expect her to behave more like an elder statesman and handle statecraft with vision and maturity.

Gandhi Criticized on Kashmir Situation

GF151852 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Aug 84 p 4

[Text] The forcible eviction of Mr. Wali Mohammad, speaker of the Kashmir state assembly, from the house during its session on Tuesday, may prove to be another nail driven into the coffin of India's moribund democracy. In that sprawling country proudly proclaimed as the largest and most viable democracy, basic democratic norms have been thrown to the winds. Of late, it would seem that the prime minister of India has busied herself in pulling down the democratic structure of her country brick by brick with total disregard for the long-term implications of her actions.

Ever since the installation of Farooq Abdullah as chief minister following his electoral triumph and his disinclination to kowtow to New Delhi, he has been a constant thorn in the iron lady's side who appears to have made up her mind long ago to topple him. With total disregard of the need for morality in political conduct, she subverted the constitutional process to plant G.M. Shah as the puppet chief minister to serve as her minion. As he could not gain a majority in the 76-seat state assembly even after all 26 Congress (I) members had flocked to his side, Mrs. Gandhi with the help of Jagmohan, the state governor, exploited the cupidity of 13 members of the National Conference (Dr. Farooq's party) who swapped their loyalty for the ministerial offices offered (and given) to them when they crossed the floor. And finally the speaker was unceremoniously thrown out after he had disqualified the defectors.

The acting chief justice of the state high court, apparently eager to oblige Mrs. Gandhi, ruled on Monday that the 13 members of the Assembly who had withdrawn their support for Farooq Abdullah could not be disqualified under the state's anti-defection law and said in his verdict, delivered on the eve of Tuesday's special session of the Assembly, that 'changing the party leader could not be claimed as defection.' Legal quibbling apart, the fact remains that parliamentary and constitutional procedures were violated to secure a 'vote of confidence' for the new puppet chief minister.

The unceremonious dismissal of Farooq Abdullah from the office of chief minister led to an uproar in India's political circles, and opposition leaders have begun to see in Mrs. Gandhi's offensive in occupied Kashmir the beginning of a drive to topple opposition governments in other states prior to the general elections in India which have to be held by next January. However, the unqualified sympathy for Farooq Abdullah voiced by opposition leaders in India, and their pilgrimage to Srinagar to meet the harassed Kashmiri leader, may well have given Mrs. Gandhi a tremulous moment or two, but she is adept in resorting to draconian measures whenever her hold on power appears to flag in an adverse political situation. Her nation could not have forgotten the days when she strengthened her hands through the expedient of the emergency in 1975 to bypass all moral and legal constraints and assume authoritarian powers.

Having crushed the volatile Sikhs, at least for the moment, by unleashing the brute force of the army, she has inducted paramilitary forces and also other units of the army to contain the upheaval in occupied Kashmir. In the free play Mrs. Gandhi has given to strong-arm methods, she may have given her gun-bearing men in uniform a trifle too much of latitude to grow into another menace to her much trumpeted espousal of democracy. Some reports from Indian sources have begun already to indicate that army men have begun to look askance at civil authorities. She cannot be unaware of the manner in which the military, if given a chance, assume powers which become difficult to challenge at a later date. Or is it that having earned a bad name for the emergency declared by her earlier, she is now planning to promulgate martial law if the political temperature becomes unbearable?

THE MUSLIM on Ties With Socialist States

GF151222 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Aug 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Ties With Socialist States"]

[Text] Following his recent visit to Poland, Hungary and the German Democratic Republic, the Foreign Secretary Niaz A. Naik has underlined the need to institutionalise Pakistan's relations with East European countries. He reiterated that efforts would be made to identify areas for further strengthening economic co-operation since all the countries that he visited expressed their interest in developing bilateral ties with Pakistan. The foreign secretary's visit is a positive move on the part of Pakistan to develop a closer relationship with socialist countries so that our foreign policy continues to be independent, non-aligned and politically equidistant from both power blocs. Just recently, the foreign minister visited the People's Republic of China and soon the foreign secretary will be going to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Apart from providing balance in our foreign policy, promoting ties with East European and other socialist countries accords with our national interests since there does not exist any basic conflict of interest between the two sides. Additionally, such relations help to defuse tensions and lessen problems in those areas of our foreign policy where we might be faced with difficulty such as Afghanistan. Given the fact that this is an age of linkage politics where events in one area affect a power bloc's interest, these cannot be divorced from similar interests in other areas. Such consultations are useful as they help to clear misunderstandings while laying the basis of a more substantive relationship. Trade apart, Pakistan can benefit a lot from East European countries in the field of sports and culture. There can be exchange of cultural delegates and troupes and sports teams to our mutual advantage. The government must also make better use of a number of scholarships offered by East European countries for higher education of young Pakistanis. Most of these scholarships are in technical and professional fields which can be extremely useful to a Third World country like Pakistan. Bureaucratic sluggishness apart, one constraint could be "ideological" but this does not make sense since if a student can return from the capitalist West without being "infected," then what is the harm in sending students to the socialist bloc? In any case, having suffered for too long from a West-oriented worldview, Pakistan's educated elite needs to have newer and fresher perspectives so that these can help to best serve the national interest, and the country as a whole.

Prime Minister Appoints Five Acting Ministers

LD161030 Tehran IRNA in English 0934 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 16 IRNA — Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi Wednesday appointed five acting ministers to supervise affairs in the Ministeries of Education, Health, Defense, Industries, and Culture and Higher Education.

In the new appointment, Dr. 'Ali Reza Marandi will supervise the Health Ministry; Col. Mohammad Reza Rahimi over Defense Ministry; Mohammad 'Ali Zakir over Ministry of Industries; Engineer Moi'yyed over Education Ministry; and Mohammad Reza Aref over Culture and Higher Education Ministry.

On Tuesday, the Majlis gave a vote of confidence to 15 ministers of Prime Minister Musavi's Cabinet while it rejected five.

It also gave a vote of confidence to the three newly introduced ministers of information, housing and urban development, and justice. Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri, Serajeddin Kazerouni, and Hasan Habibi are holding the three ministerial posts respectively.

3 Ministry Appointees Approved

LD151656 Tehran IRNA in English 1525 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 15, IRNA — The Majlis gave vote of confidence to three newly introduced ministers in its open session Wednesday. The following are the results of open voting:

Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Mohammadi Reyshahri, with 176 votes for, 11 against and 13 abstentions as minister of information, Hasan Habibi with 176 votes for, 14 against and 10 abstentions as minister of justice. Serajeddin Kazerouni with 174 votes for, 12 against and 14 abstentions as minister of housing and urban development.

The newly approved minister of justice held the post of minister of culture and higher education in the last reshuffle of the provisional government and was a Tehran's deputy in the first Majlis.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri, minister of information, was the religious judge of the Islamic Revolution's courts as well as those of the Armed Forces.

Kazerouni is an expert in urban development field.

During Tuesday's session of the Majlis, 15 ministers received vote of confidence while five others did not gain the required 50 percent plus one vote of those present in the Majlis.

The five ministers were those of defence, education, industries, health and culture and higher education.

However, Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi today praised the services of these ministers and expressed hope that they would serve the Islamic Republic in other posts in future.

Velayati on Efforts To Expel Israel From UN

LD151955 Tehran IRNA in English 1948 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 15, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said in a gathering of diplomats from Muslim countries here today that the Islamic Republic would make renewed efforts to expel the Zionist regime from the United Nations and urged Muslim states for support.

"There is no doubt that if we all join hands we shall certainly gain victory," Velayati said.

The Palestinian ambassador who was present in the gathering said the initiative was worthy of appreciation and of careful consideration in order to guarantee its success.

Velayati said Iran's first attempt failed two years ago with only nine favourable votes in the U.N. because of "certain conservatism or lack of experience in correctly analysing the chances of success."

But, he added, with slight efforts by the Islamic countries last year 43 U.N. members voted for the expulsion move.

"I hope this year no Islamic country would be on the list of the opponents to the expulsion of the Zionist regime, nor should they be included in the abstention list. No political consideration should be for us more important than fulfilling our Islamic and humanitarian obligations."

The Iranian foreign minister also noted facts which disqualified the Zionist regime from retaining its membership in the U.N., namely its official racist ideology, systematic policy of expansionism and aggression, and assault, arrest and torture of the inhabitants of occupied Palestine.

He said if the United States withdrew from the U.N. in the event of the expulsion of the Zionist regime it would "render the best service" to this world organization.

"A superpower that has made of its veto privilege in the Security Council a tool to defeat anti-imperialist movements throughout the world, would render the best service to the United Nations and all its members...[IRNA ellipsis] if it withdraws from the United Nations.

"I do not think any of you may disagree with me on this," he said.

Velayati further said the Islamic countries could make up for the U.N.'s financial losses from a U.S. withdrawal by allocating one or two percent "and even one or two thousandth" of their recent 1,000-billion-dollar arms purchases.

The Palestinian ambassador to the Islamic Republic, Salah az-Zawawi, told the gathering the Iranian initiative was worthy of careful consideration in order to realize its success. "It is our duty to foil the plots of the Zionist enemy with our unity and mobilization of our great strength. We must put aside our differences in order to prepare ourselves to face a destructive war which aims at our nations, values, territories and sanctities," Az-Zawawi said.

Reportage on Visit by Turkish Minister

Ozdaglar Begins Economic Talks

TA151750 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] State Minister Ismail Ozdaglar, who is on an official visit to Iran, met Iran's minister of mines and metals, Hoseyn Nili-Ahmadabadi, today. They discussed the possibilities of cooperation in fields concerning their ministries.

Ozdaglar also met Iran's Heavy Industries Minister Behzad Nabavi. The delegations of the two countries also participated in the meeting.

The Turkish and Iranian delegations will continue to hold talks tomorrow on the implementation of the economic cooperation protocol which was signed between the two countries in March.

More on Meetings

LD151749 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The under secretary to the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who is in Tehran, had his first round of talks with Mr Nabavi, minister of heavy industry, this morning. During these talks, also attended by the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Ankara and the ambassador of the Turkish Republic to Tehran, the existing problems for implementing the contents of the protocol concluded by the Governments of Iran and Turkey were discussed and studied. The need for solving problems and for long-term relations between the two countries was emphasized and it was decided that by holding other sessions the necessary agreements should be reached towards the final solution of problems.

He also met and had talks with Mr Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan, minister of roads and transport, this afternoon. During this meeting talks and discussions took place about issues of interest to the two countries, including transport problems and the traffic of Turkish drivers in Iran. The minister of roads and transport called for bringing about the necessary facilities for the carrying of certain Iranian goods from Turkey by Iranian drivers.

The Turkish under secretary for economic affairs also met and had talks with Mr Nili, our country's minister of mines and metals, this afternoon. During the meeting negotiations took place with regard to the agreements for the sale of zinc concentrate and the draft of an agreement was also worked out. Also talks were held on the exchange of cast iron by Iran and the obtaining of steel ingot from Turkey.

Meets Transport, Petroleum Ministers

TA161123 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1000 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] State Minister Ismail Ozdaglar, who is on an official visit to Iran, met Iran's minister of roads and transport, Mohammad Hadinezhad, yesterday. The extension of the highway transport agreement existing between the two countries, as well as measures to speed up the transportation of Iranian goods in Turkish ports, were discussed during the meeting. Ozdaglar also had a meeting with Iranian Petroleum Minister Mohammad Gharazi. Difficulties concerning the sale of crude oil and payments were settled during the meeting and a full agreement was reached on these matters.

Ozdaglar left Tehran today for a visit of industrial installations in Isfahan. He is scheduled to return to Tehran this evening to meet with Iranian Heavy Industries Minister Behzad Nebavi for the third time.

Meanwhile, the Turkish-Iranian joint economic committee is continuing its meetings. The committee already prepared the text of a supplementary protocol to be annexed to the bilateral economic cooperation agreement signed in March. The additional protocol will be signed tomorrow prior to departure of the Turkish delegation under Ozdaglar for Turkey.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,820

LD151619 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 15, IRNA — The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic announced in its 1820th communique Wednesday that the Islamic combatants destroyed one vehicle, one munitions depot, one artillery piece, one mortar launching and a machine gun, as well as seven observation posts and bunkers in Bakhtaran and Ilam fronts during the past 24 hours.

Also, the Iraqis' activities were halted or slowed down by the fire of Islamic combatants upon enemy logistic routes and concentration centres in the border fronts of Piranshahr, Sar Dasht, Hajj 'Umran, Marivan and Panjvain during the said period. Five enemy weaponry positions and one mortar launching pad were smashed and 12 Iraqi troops were killed or wounded in these fronts.

The engineering operations and vehicles movements of the enemy were stopped by the fire of Islamic combatants upon Faw-Basra axis and Iraqi positions west of Arvand River. Also nine various bunkers and one drilling vehicle of the enemy forces were set ablaze in these fronts.

Abadan was under sporadic fire of Iraqi long-range heavy weaponry during Tuesday as a result of which 11 houses and five shops were damaged, concluded the joint staff command communique.

'Large Number' of Volunteers Departs for Fronts

LD150927 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] According to a report from the Central News Unit, in continuation of the departure of a large number of the followers of the path of Imam Husayn, peace be upon him, to the fronts of devotion and sacrifice, yesterday afternoon a large number of those who responded to the call of the Husayn of the age, with firm determination and great enthusiasm, left Mashhad toward

the battlefields of the war between light and darkness in order to assist the other brave fighters of Islam in their battle against the satanic forces of Saddam Husayn and world blasphemy.

According to the Central News Unit report, the departing fighters began by singing religious songs and beating their breasts in the mobilization barracks of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, District 4. Then, passing through a number of streets in disciplined ranks, they reached the shrine of the Eighth Imam. After visiting the shrine of Imam Reza, may peace be upon him, they left for the battlefronts in trains to an enthusiastic and warm send-off from the Hezbollahi people of Mashhad.

Also 1,200 fighters from District 1, from Semnan and Zanjan Provinces, left Imam Hasan barracks toward the battlefronts of truth against falsehood in order to confront world blasphemy.

During the past 2 days a large number of volunteers from Kerman, Arak, Kashan, Golara, Yasuj, and Salehabad also left for the battlefronts of war against the Zionist enemy.

Prisoners 'Voluntarily' Leave for Battlefronts
GF151654 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 31 Jul 84 p 2

[Text] The Islamic revolution prosecutor of Khorasan in a press conference conveyed his views on combating the smuggling of narcotics, veil-lessness, profiteering, and hoarding. He also said that a group of prisoners in Mashhad voluntarily left for the battlefronts.

In this conference, the Islamic revolution prosecutor of Mashhad first spoke on the results of the regional seminar on combating narcotics which was held in Mashhad. Then, he referred to the decisiveness with which the judiciary will deal with the drug smugglers, the presence of law and order forces on the borders of Iran, and the strengthening of rehabilitation centers for addicts. He also said that the Koranic verse "enjoining good and forbidding evil" covers the question of the veil for women. In regard to hoarding and profiteering, he said: The question of supply and demand cannot be resolved only through the special guild courts. This question should be resolved through proper channels, that is, the unions, the shopkeepers, and the cooperatives. In future, this will be arranged accordingly and responsibility for this also will be laid on their shoulders.

In conclusion, he referred to the departure of prisoners to the battlefronts of right over wrong and for reconstruction of war-stricken areas. He added that this was a factor for improving their mental and psychological nature. He further said that a group of prisoners from Mashhad prison has voluntarily left for the battlefront.

More Prisoners To Be Pardoned by Khomeyni
LD151301 Tehran IRNA in English 1146 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Shiraz, Aug. 15, IRNA — On the occasion of 'Id al-'Adha, Sept. 6, another group of prisoners will be pardoned upon Imam Khomeyni's orders, Hojjat ol-Eslam Ramezani, Islamic revolution's prosecutor of Shiraz, said here today.

He added that in the future any prisoner having the qualifications will be pardoned without waiting for certain occasions.

Soviet-Iranian Shipping Conference Opens 15 Aug
LD151808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] The 15th periodic conference on marine transportation operaitons in the northern ports of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the ports of the Soviet Union opened this afternoon in Anzali.

According to our report by the Central News Unit, the conference, which will last 1 week, will discuss and study such issues as schedules for the dispatch of ships to Iran's northern ports, ways of transferring the Iranian ship *Iranqadr* from the the Soviet Union's internal waterways to the Caspian sea, the purchase of two ships by the Islamic Republic of Iran, permission for the passage of vessels of the Islamic Republic of Iran ports and shipping organization from Soviet waterways, the depth of water in the entry channels to Anzali and Nowshahr, the repair of floating units, ways of preventing pollution in the Caspian sea, and the draft constitution of the joint Iranian-Soviet Shipping in the Caspian Sea Organization. They will take the necessary decisions on more cooperation by the two countries in the transportation of freight via the Caspian sea.

Antinarcotics Cooperation Discussed With Pakistan
GF151708 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 31 Jul 84 p 3

[Text] In a meeting between a political delegation of the Islamic Republic and political and administration authorities of Pakistani Baluchistan at Quetta, the capital of this province, the Islamic Republic proposed the signing of a border protocol between the two countries with regard to cooperation between border officials in combatting the smuggling of narcotics.

Kazemi, the political under secretary of the Baluchistan va Sistan governorate-general, headed our delegation, comprising representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior, gendarmerie commander of the region, gendarmerie border official, and the consul general of the Islamic Republic at Quetta. After talks with the political and military authorities of that province, he returned to Zahedan and gave his views to an IRNA correspondent on the aims and results of this visit. He said: In view of the cordial relations existing between the Government of the Islamic Republic and the brotherly country of Pakistan, and in view of the existence of common cultures and faith of Islam between the two countries, we proceeded to expand our foreign organizations with this country in order to bring the two nations closer together. In view of the reciprocal visits of the ministers of interior of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan, it was decided that provincial level delegations of the border authorities will meet every 6 months and exchange views on problems which they have to deal with.

He added: In the meetings which we had with the political authorities, including the officiating governor general of the Pakistani Baluchistan and the border officials of this province,

we explained the views of the Islamic Republic for more understanding and closer relations between Iran and Pakistan in order to be able to control the borders, to carry out trade exchanges, and to discuss other related matters. The Pakistani authorities offered their full cooperation in this field, particularly in the field of controlling the borders.

The Baluchistan va Sistan governorate under secretary at the conclusion of his talk said: A Pakistan political delegation, like the one we sent from the Islamic Republic, will visit Iran within the next 6 months to keep the talks going.

Delegation Visits Niger for Purchase of Uranium
GF151642 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 4 Aug 84 p3

[Text] Amor Ollahi, head of the Iranian Atomic Energy Organization, has led a delegation of members of this organization to Niger. He met the prime minister of this country last Wednesday. In this meeting, Amor Ollahi conveyed to him a verbal message from the prime minister of our country.

Similarly, in view of the earlier negotiations between the two countries, final approval by the Islamic Republic of Iran in connection with the purchase of uranium from Niger was conveyed to the prime minister of this country.

The head of the Iranian Atomic Energy Organization, along with the delegation accompanying him, also met and held talks with the under secretary of the Ministry of Uranium Mines of Niger. In this meeting, they finalized the draft agreement for the purchase of uranium.

"Government Week" To Be Held 24-31 Aug
GF161126 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] The period from 24-31 August has been designated "Government Week," during which the activities and programs of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran will be exhibited. Mr Mohammad Khatemi, minister of Islamic guidance, who announced this, said that each of this week's days will witness a special topic on the activities and programs implemented by the ministries and concerned departments.

Noting that the Islamic Guidance Ministry was tasked with organizing this week, the minister expressed hope that this week will be a good opportunity for the Muslim Iranian people to get more and more acquainted with the government's problems so as to increase their cooperation and support for the Islamic Government.

Earthquakes Reported Near Kerman, Sardasht
LD151154 Tehran IRNA in English 1107 GMT 15 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 15 IRNA — An earthquake with an intensity of 5.3 degrees on the Richter scale shook the city of Kerman, 1,064 kms southeast of Tehran and its nearby areas at 05:32 local time (02:02 GMT) today (Wednesday), Geophysics Institute of Tehran University announced the same day.

The epicenter of the quake was the Ravar District, 143 kms from Kerman.

No report has reached here on any probable damages or casualties so far.

Another tremor had also shook the district Tuesday morning.

Meanwhile, the town of Sardasht, West Azarbaijan Province, and nearby areas experienced a tremor at 02:35 hours local time Wednesday (23:05 GMT Tuesday).

The intensity of the quake in the area was 4.6 degrees on the Richter scale.

No report on probable damages has reached here yet.